

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 07861 220323Z
ACTION FBOE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 A-01 L-03 DRC-01 /017 W
-----074954 220331Z /63/15

P 190757Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1677

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 7861

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CHANG MRN TO READ 7861 VICE 1677)

FOL CABLE SENT ACTION NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE FROM BOMBAY
MAY 18 REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOMBAY 1215

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ABLD, ACLM
SUBJECT: AGA KHAN PROPERTY

REF: (A) BOMBAY 1174, (B) BOMBAY 1210

1. AS EXPLAINED TO DCM BLOOD IN TELECON THIS MORNING, THE PERFORMANCE OF LAW FIRM HANDLING THE PURCHASE OF THE AGA KHAN PROPERTY FOR THE USG HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING FOR SOME MONTHS. AT LEAST PARTLY AS A RESULT OF DILATORY FILINGS BY OUR ATTORNEYS AN INJUNCTION STALLING THE COMPLETION OF THIS TRANSACTION WAS GRANTED ON A PETITION OF A SPECULATIVE BUILDER WHO ALLEGED FRAUD ON PART OF VENDORS. IN A HIGH COURT HEARING ON MAY 16 AND IN AN ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL HEARING ON MAY 17, THE CONGEN WAS RESPECTIVELY (A) NOT REPRESENTED, AND (B) INADEQUATELY REPRESENTED. THEREFORE TODAY CONGEN TERMINATED SERVICES OF THIS LAW FIRM AND ENGAGED ANOTHER FIRM WHICH WE BELIEVE WILL GIVE THIS MATTER THE CLOSE AND CAREFUL HANDLING IT MUST HAVE IF WE ARE TO SUCCEED IN CONSUMMATING SALE.

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2. FORTUNATELY WE HAD TAKEN PRECAUTION OF GETTING DETAILED SCHEDULE OF ESTIMATED FEE SO WE ARE QUITE WELL PROTECTED AGAINST ANY ATTEMPT TO LOAD UNDUE CHARGES ON US BY FORMER COUNSEL. NEVERTHELESS IT IS CLEAR THAT CONSIDERABLE EXPENSIVE LITIGATION MUST BE ENVISAGED OVER NEXT FEW MONTHS. THE NEW COUNSEL WILL CHARGE HIGHER FEES THAN THE

FORMER ONE BUT WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE WE WILL GET
GOOD PERFORMANCE IN RETURN.

3. WE HAVE ALREADY INSTRUCTED THE NEW ATTORNEY TO
BEGIN PREPARATION OF STATEMENT WHICH CHARITY COMMISSIONER
HAD ASKED US TO FILE AFTER WE WERE MADE AN INTERESTED
PARTY IN PENDING HEARING YESTERDAY. WE WILL IN COURSE OF NEXT
FEW DAYS GET A DETAILED ESTIMATE OF THE LEGAL COSTS WHICH
MAY BE ENTAILED AND WILL IMMEDIATELY REQUEST AN INCREASE
IN PRESENT ALLOTMENT WHICH QUITE CERTAINLY IS NOT ADEQUATE.

4. SUGGEST EMBASSY REPEAT THIS TELEGRAM AS WELL AS
ABOVE REFTELS SO THAT DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE A
PICTURE OF WHERE THIS MATTER STANDS AT PRESENT TIME.
COURTNEY UNQUOTE
GOHEEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGA KHAN PROPERTY
TAGS: ABLD, ACLM
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